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AND PROCEEDINGS BEFORE  
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June 12, 2001

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Appl. No. 09/821,044; Filed: March 30, 2001  
For: **Fingerprint Scanner Auto-Capture System and Method**  
Inventor: David C. Smith  
Our Ref: 1823.0330001

Sir:

The following documents are forwarded herewith for appropriate action by the U.S.  
Patent and Trademark Office:

1. Preliminary Amendment;
2. Return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

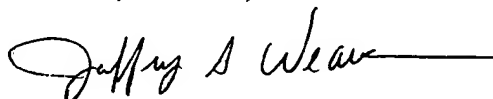
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036. A duplicate copy of this letter is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Jeffrey S. Weaver  
Attorney for Applicant  
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JSW:asl  
Enclosures